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Tai Loi language

Tai Loi, also known as **Mong Lue**, refers to various Palaungic languages spoken mainly in Burma, with a few hundred in Laos and some also in China. Hall (2017) reports that *Tai Loi* is a cover term meaning 'mountain Tai' in Shan, and refers to various Angkuic, Waic, and Western Palaungic languages rather than a single language or branch. The Shan exonym *Tai Loi* can refer to:

- *Western Palaungic* branch: De'ang
- *Lametic* branch: Lamet
- *Angkuic* branch: Muak Sa-aak, Mok
- *Waic* branch
  - Wa: Meung Yum, Savaiq, etc.
  - Plang: Phang, Kontoi, Pang Pung, etc.

Tai Loi	
Mong Lue	
Native to	Burma, Laos
Native speakers	(5,000 cited 1995–2008)[1]
Language family	Austroasiatic ▪ Palaungic ▪ (various) ▪ **Tai Loi**
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	`tlq`

Additionally, Ethnologue (21st edition)[2], citing Schliesinger (2003), lists **Doi** as a Tai Loi variety in Ban Muang, Sing District, Luang Namtha Province, Laos as a nearly extinct language variety spoken by an ethnic group comprising 600 people and 80 households as of 2003. Schliesinger (2003) reports that elderly Doi speakers can understand the Samtao language.[3]

References

1. Tai Loi (https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/tlq/) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
2. "Laos" (https://www.ethnologue.com/country/LA/languages).
3. Schliesinger, Joachim. 2003. Ethnic Groups of Laos. Vol. 2: Austro-Asiatic-Speaking Peoples. Bangkok: White Lotus Press.

- Hall, Elizabeth. 2017. On the Linguistic Affiliation of 'Tai Loi' (https://evols.library.manoa.hawaii.edu/bitstream/10524/52409/1/D03Hall2017linguistics.pdf). JSEALS vol. 10.2:xix-xxii.

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